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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/522,882	02/02/2005	Alfred Mueller	004501-797	5246

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EXAMINER	
TALBOT, MICHAEL	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
3722	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
01/31/2008	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/522,882	MUELLER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Michael W. Talbot	3722	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *13 November 2007*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-13* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-13* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *02 February 2005* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-5 and 7-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Morawski et al. (US 4,540,187). Morawski et al. '187 shows in Figures 1-4 a method of clamping a rotationally symmetrical body (W) with its first side (tapered side as viewed in Fig. 1) pulled by means of a tensile force (22,36,38) which acts in extension of the rotation axis of the body on the first side of the body against a supporting element (60,62) having a centering effect, wherein the supporting element is acted upon with a spring force (84,86) which is opposed to the tensile force, wherein the spring force is slightly smaller than the tensile force (must be in order for chuck to operate) and is proportioned in such a way that when the body strikes the supporting element, the supporting element first of all yields in the axial direction. Morawski et al. '187 shows clamping the body while the tensile force pulls the body (axial movement of drawbar connected through threaded socket (30) of puller shaft (22) provides tensile force which pulls body during clamping action). Morawski et al. '187 shows the tensile force being transmitted to the body by means of a tie rod (22) which is connected to the body by means of a quick-action coupling (via collet 38). Morawski et al. '187 shows the tie rod guided with radial clearance axially and concentrically (must be in order for chuck to operate) to the rotation axis of the rotationally symmetrical body. Morawski et al. '187 shows the body with a centering region (at tapered end), which is arranged at an axial distance from the first side of the body and is oriented in the same direction as the first side of the body, is pulled against a centering device

(19,50). Morawski et al. '187 shows the spring force, tensile force and configuration of supporting element are selected in accordance with the body to be clamped. Morawski et al. '187 shows the supporting element provided with supporting surfaces (98,100) which are arranged concentrically to the rotation axis of the body to be clamped and which are inclined toward the rotation axis or are contiguous along a defined circumference and form an annular supporting ring. Morawski et al. '187 shows a centering device (19,50) provided at a an axial distance form the supporting element, wherein the centering device is provided with centering surfaces (48) which are arranged concentrically to the rotation axis of the body to be clamped and are inclined toward the rotation axis. Morawski et al. '187 shows the centering surfaces distributed uniformly over the circumference and extend in a finger like manner (32) toward the rotation axis from a defined outer circumference up to a defined inner circumference or contiguous along a defined circumference and form an annular centering surface.

3. Claims 1-3,5 and 7-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Garrison et al. (US 2,922,657). Garrison et al. '657 shows in Figures 1-3 a method of clamping a rotationally symmetrical body (W) with its first side (top as viewed in Fig. 1) pulled by means of a tensile force (5,32,38) which acts in extension of the rotation axis of the body on the first side of the body against a supporting element (20,54) having a centering effect, wherein the supporting element is acted upon with a spring force (39,50) which is opposed to the tensile force, wherein the spring force is slightly smaller than the tensile force (must be in order for chuck to operate) and is proportioned in such a way that when the body strikes the supporting element, the supporting element first of all yields in the axial direction. Garrison et al. '657 shows clamping the body while the tensile force pulls the body (axial movement of drawbar connected threadingly to rods (5,32) provides tensile force which pulls body during clamping action). Garrison et al. '657 shows the tensile force being transmitted to the body by means of a tie rod

(5) which is connected to the body by means of a quick-action coupling (32,38). Garrison et al. '657 shows the tie rod guided with radial clearance axially and concentrically (must be in order for chuck to operate) to the rotation axis of the rotationally symmetrical body. Garrison et al. '657 shows the spring force, tensile force and configuration of supporting element are selected in accordance with the body to be clamped. Garrison et al. '657 shows the supporting element provided with supporting surfaces (22 and tips of 54) which are arranged concentrically to the rotation axis of the body to be clamped and which are inclined toward the rotation axis or are contiguous along a defined circumference and form an annular supporting ring. Garrison et al. '657 shows a centering device (33) provided at a an axial distance form the supporting element, wherein the centering device is provided with centering surfaces (36) which are arranged concentrically to the rotation axis of the body to be clamped and are inclined toward the rotation axis. Garrison et al. '657 shows the centering surfaces distributed uniformly over the circumference and extend in a finger like manner (32) toward the rotation axis from a defined outer circumference up to a defined inner circumference or contiguous along a defined circumference and form an annular centering surface.

4. Claims 1-3,5 and 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kempton et al. (US 1,692,379). Kempton et al. '379 shows in Figures 1-4 a method of clamping a rotationally symmetrical body (A,21) with its first side (left side of A,21 as viewed in Fig. 1) pulled by means of a tensile force (17,19,20) which acts in extension of the rotation axis of the body on the first side of the body against a supporting element (14) having a centering effect, wherein the supporting element is acted upon with a spring force (14a) which is opposed to the tensile force, wherein the spring force is slightly smaller than the tensile force (must be in order for chuck to operate) and is proportioned in such a way that when the body strikes the supporting element, the supporting element first of all yields in the axial direction. Kempton et al.

'379 shows clamping the body while the tensile force pulls the body (axial movement of rod (19,20) provides tensile force which pulls body during clamping action). Kempton et al. '379 shows the tensile force being transmitted to the body by means of a tie rod (20) which is connected to the body by means of a quick-action coupling (19). Kempton et al. '379 shows the tie rod guided with radial clearance axially and concentrically (must be in order for chuck to operate) to the rotation axis of the rotationally symmetrical body. Kempton et al. '379 shows the spring force, tensile force and configuration of supporting element are selected in accordance with the body to be clamped. Kempton et al. '379 shows the supporting element provided with supporting surfaces (at 32) which are arranged concentrically to the rotation axis of the body to be clamped and which are inclined toward the rotation axis or are contiguous along a defined circumference and form an annular supporting ring.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morawski et al. (US 4,540,187) in view of Clavell (US 3,019,039). Morawski et al. '187 lacks the body being a rotor with integrally formed moving blades capable of receiving the centering devices of a clamping device in a finger-like manner. Clavell '039 shows in Figures 1 and 2 a rotor (1) with integrally formed moving blades (2) capable of accommodating the centering devices of a clamping device in a finger-like manner. In view of this teaching of Clavell '039, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to replace the clamped work piece of Morawski et al. '187 with a rotor having integrally formed blades as taught by Clavell '039 to increase the

versatility of the clamping device through the ability to accommodate clamping work pieces with a plurality of blade-like structures.

7. Claims 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Morawski et al. (US 4,540,187) in view of Clavell (US 3,019,039). Morawski et al. '187 lacks the body being a rotor having a hub on a first side including moving blades integrally formed on the hub, wherein the hub projects beyond the moving blades. Clavell '039 shows in Figures 1 and 2 a rotor (1) having a hub (3) on a first side including moving blades (2) integrally formed on hub, wherein the hub projects beyond the moving blades. In view of this teaching of Clavell '039, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to replace the clamped work piece of Morawski et al. '187 with a rotor having a hub with integrally formed blades as taught by Clavell '039 to increase the versatility of the clamping device through the ability to accommodate clamping work pieces with a plurality of blade-like structures.

8. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Garrison et al. (US 2,922,657) in view of Clavell (US 3,019,039). Garrison et al. '657 lacks the body being a rotor with integrally formed moving blades capable of receiving the centering devices of a clamping device in a finger-like manner. Clavell '039 shows in Figures 1 and 2 a rotor (1) with integrally formed moving blades (2) capable of accommodating the centering devices of a clamping device in a finger-like manner. In view of this teaching of Clavell '039, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to replace the clamped work piece of Garrison et al. '657 with a rotor having integrally formed blades as taught by Clavell '039 to increase the versatility of the clamping device through the ability to accommodate clamping work pieces with a plurality of blade-like structures.

9. Claims 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Garrison et al. (US 2,922,657) in view of Clavell (US 3,019,039). Garrison et al. '657 lacks the

body being a rotor having a hub on a first side including moving blades integrally formed on the hub, wherein the hub projects beyond the moving blades. Clavell '039 shows in Figures 1 and 2 a rotor (1) having a hub (3) on a first side including moving blades (2) integrally formed on hub, wherein the hub projects beyond the moving blades. In view of this teaching of Clavell '039, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to replace the clamped work piece of Garrison et al. '657 with a rotor having a hub with integrally formed blades as taught by Clavell '039 to increase the versatility of the clamping device through the ability to accommodate clamping work pieces with a plurality of blade-like structures.

10. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kempton et al. (US 1,692,379) in view of Clavell (US 3,019,039). Kempton et al. '379 lacks the body being a rotor with integrally formed moving blades capable of receiving the centering devices of a clamping device in a finger-like manner. Clavell '039 shows in Figures 1 and 2 a rotor (1) with integrally formed moving blades (2) capable of accommodating the centering devices of a clamping device in a finger-like manner. In view of this teaching of Clavell '039, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to replace the clamped work piece of Kempton et al. '379 with a rotor having integrally formed blades as taught by Clavell '039 to increase the versatility of the clamping device through the ability to accommodate clamping work pieces with a plurality of blade-like structures.

11. Claims 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kempton et al. (US 1,692,379) in view of Clavell (US 3,019,039). Kempton et al. '379 lacks the body being a rotor having a hub on a first side including moving blades integrally formed on the hub, wherein the hub projects beyond the moving blades. Clavell '039 shows in Figures 1 and 2 a rotor (1) having a hub (3) on a first side including moving blades (2) integrally formed on hub, wherein the hub projects beyond the moving blades. In view of this teaching of Clavell '039, it

would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to replace the clamped work piece of Kempton et al. '379 with a rotor having a hub with integrally formed blades as taught by Clavell '039 to increase the versatility of the clamping device through the ability to accommodate clamping work pieces with a plurality of blade-like structures.

Response to Arguments

12. Applicant's arguments filed 13 November 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

13. Examiner respectfully disagrees with Applicant's assertion that the references used in the above cited rejections do not teach "a tensile force used to pull the body of a work piece during clamping of the body". Each reference clearly shows "a tensile force" to facilitate the clamping process of the body, even though the references may also include additional forces, such as a compression force, to aid in the clamping process 9of the body. The claims as written do not prohibit the presence of any additional forces used to facilitate clamping, they just require the presence of "a tensile force" which all of the above references clearly teach.

Conclusion

14. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

16. Any inquiry concerning the content of this communication from the examiner should be directed to Michael W. Talbot, whose telephone number is 571-272-4481. The examiner's office hours are typically 8:30am until 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. The examiner's supervisor, Mrs. Monica S. Carter, may be reached at 571-272-4475.

In order to reduce pendency and avoid potential delays, group 3720 is encouraging FAXing of responses to Office Actions directly into the Group at FAX number 571-273-8300. This practice may be used for filling papers not requiring a fee. It may also be used for filing papers, which require a fee, by applicants who authorize charges to a USPTO deposit account. Please identify Examiner Michael W. Talbot of Art Unit 3722 at the top of your cover sheet.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MWT
Examiner
27 January 2008

Monica S. Carter
MONICA CARTER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER